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10/621,289

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EXAMINER

VUU, HENRY

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2179

DATE MAILED: 11/24/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/621,289

Applicant(s)

RAGAN ET AL.

Examiner

Henry Vuu

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 July 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-25 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-25 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 17 July 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a). Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>7/17/2003</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1 – 4, 6, 8, 9, 11, 12, 14 – 16, 18 – 22, 24, and 25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Kimball et al. (Publication No. 2004/0034646).

As to independent claim 1, Kimball et al. teaches:

A method of customizing a user interface (see e.g., para. [0053], lines 1 – 3), the method comprising: identifying a user of the user interface (see e.g., para. [0035]; i.e., the graphical user interface (GUI) includes a control for identifying a user's grouping from a set of different groupings); displaying an object within the user interface (see e.g., Fig. 11 and para. [0066]; i.e., the object corresponds to contents 1120a – 1120d within "Favorites Places", which is displayed on the user interface for selection); and displaying a shortcut for the object (see e.g., Fig. 5B and para. [0043]; i.e., the shortcut corresponds to the "Favorites" menu 118g and "Shortcuts" menu 124g for displaying a list of choices to the user) based on the user (see e.g., para. [0043]; i.e., the shortcut

and its content is directed towards a users interest, such as content frequently accessed by an adult or child) and a history of object operations performed by the user (see e.g., para. [0043]; i.e., the history of object operations corresponds to references to content frequently accessed by a user, such as by an adult or child user).

As to dependent claim 2, Kimball et al. teaches:

The method of claim 1, wherein the shortcut (see e.g., Fig. 5B and para. [0043]; i.e., the shortcut corresponds to the "Favorites" menu 118g and "Shortcuts" menu 124g) comprises one of: a hyperlink, a button (see e.g., para. [0036], lines 6 – 10; i.e., functions that a certain class of users frequently use is represented as a toolbar button), an icon (see e.g., para. [0065], lines 5 – 11; i.e., the "Favorites" menu is available as an icon used as a shortcut to contents frequently accessed by a user), a toolbar control (see e.g., para. [0036], lines 6 – 10; i.e., shortcuts frequently accessed by users are represented as toolbar buttons which corresponds to a toolbar control), and a menu item (see e.g., Fig. 5B).

As to dependent claim 3, Kimball et al. teaches:

The method of claim 1, wherein the object (see e.g., Fig. 11 and para. [0066]; i.e., the object corresponds to contents 1120 within "Favorites Places") comprises one of a data file (see e.g., Fig. 11; i.e., the reference contents within "Favorite Places" corresponds to data files that are accessed by means of clicking on content 1120a – 1120d) and a set of related data within a data file (see e.g., Fig. 11; i.e., the reference contents within "Favorite Places" are arranged in a hierarchical tree, wherein child nodes are categorized under a related parent node).

As to dependent claim 4, Kimball et al. teaches:

The method of claim 1, further comprising recording object operations that are performed by the user on the object to create the history of object operations (see e.g., para. [0063] and para. [0074]; i.e., database 154, memory 172 or mass storage device 170a is used to store frequently accessed or requested services by the user).

As to dependent claim 6, Kimball et al. teaches:

The method of claim 1, further comprising managing the object using an application (see e.g., para. [0023], lines 6 – 10; i.e., the reference content corresponding to objects within the “Favorites” 118g are managed by an application by means of a profile indicating the level of maturity of a user), wherein the displayed shortcut is further based on the application (see e.g., para. [0023], lines 6 – 10; i.e., an application is used to evaluate the level of maturity of a user, wherein the application provides a toolbar with shortcuts to frequently accessed content).

As to dependent claim 8, Kimball et al. teaches:

The method of claim 1, wherein the user has a user attribute (see e.g., para. [0013]; i.e., the user is associated with several attribute types), and wherein the displayed shortcut object (see e.g., Fig. 5B and para. [0043]; i.e., the shortcut corresponds to the “Favorites” menu 118g and “Shortcuts” menu 124g for displaying a list of choices to the user) is further based on a history of object operations selected by a set of users (see e.g., para. [0043]; i.e., the history of object operations corresponds to references to content frequently accessed by a user, such as by an adult or child user) having the user attribute (see e.g., para. [0013] and para. [0081]; i.e., a user attribute, such as

maturity and access rights, determines the display of the user interface in terms of toolbar control, buttons, and shortcuts).

As to dependent claim 9, Kimball et al. teaches:

The method of claim 1, wherein the object has an object attribute (see Fig. 11; i.e., the object corresponds to contents 1120a – 1120d within “Favorite Places”, wherein the content includes attributes, such as “About AOL” 1025a, “Member Exclusives”, “Meeting People & Staying In Touch”, and “AOL’s Top Picks”), and wherein the displayed shortcut (see e.g., Fig. 5B and para. [0043]; i.e., the shortcut corresponds to the “Favorites” menu 118g and “Shortcuts” menu 124g for displaying a list of choices to the user) is further based on a history of object operations selected for a set of objects (see e.g., para. [0043]; i.e., the history of object operations corresponds to references to content frequently accessed by a user, such as by an adult or child user) having the object attribute (see e.g., Fig. 11; i.e., the reference content contains object attributes in order to be properly categorized within the folder hierarchy).

As to independent claim 11, Kimball et al. teaches:

A method of customizing a user interface (see e.g., para. [0053], lines 1 – 3), the method comprising: identifying a user of the user interface (see e.g., para. [0035]; i.e., the graphical user interface (GUI) includes a control for identifying a user’s grouping from a set of different groupings); displaying an object within the user interface (see e.g., Fig. 11 and para. [0066]; i.e., the object corresponds to contents 1120a – 1120d within “Favorites Places”, which is displayed on the user interface for selection), wherein the object has an object attribute (see Fig. 11; i.e., the object corresponds to contents

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1120a – 1120d within “Favorite Places”, wherein the content includes attributes, such as “About AOL” 1025a, “Member Exclusives”, “Meeting People & Staying In Touch”, and “AOL’s Top Picks”); recording object operations that are performed by the user on the object in a history of object operations (see e.g., para. [0063] and para. [0074]; i.e., database 154, memory 172 or mass storage device 170a is used to store frequently accessed or requested services by the user); and displaying a shortcut for the object (see e.g., Fig. 5B and para. [0043]; i.e., the shortcut corresponds to the “Favorites” menu 118g and “Shortcuts” menu 124g for displaying a list of choices to the user) based on the user (see e.g., para. [0043]; i.e., the shortcut and its content is directed towards a users interest, such as content frequently accessed by an adult or child), the object attribute (see e.g., Fig. 11), and the history of object operations (see e.g., para. [0043]; i.e., the history of object operations corresponds to references to content frequently accessed by a user, such as by an adult or child user).

As to dependent claim 12, Kimball et al. teaches:

The method of claim 12, further comprising managing the object using an application (see e.g., para. [0023], lines 6 – 10; i.e., the reference content corresponding to objects within the “Favorites” 118g are managed by an application by means of a profile indicating the level of maturity of a user), wherein the displayed shortcut is further based on the application (see e.g., para. [0023], lines 6 – 10; i.e., an application is used to evaluate the level of maturity of a user, wherein the application provides a toolbar with shortcuts to frequently accessed content).

As to independent claim 14, Kimball et al. teaches:

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A system for customizing a user interface (see e.g., para. [0047]; i.e., the system for customizing a user interface can be stored on host 144 or client 140a), the system comprising: an identification system for identifying a user of the user interface (see e.g., para. [0057]; i.e., host 144 is connected the user, in which the user supplies a user identification and password to the server of the host 144 for identification); a display system for displaying an object in the user interface (see e.g., para. [0048]; i.e., display 162 is used to display the object in the user interface); a recording system for recording object operations that are selected by the user (see e.g., para. [0063] and para. [0074]; i.e., database 154, memory 172 or mass storage device 170a is used to store frequently accessed or requested services by the user); and a customization system for displaying a shortcut for an object operation based on the recorded object operations and the object (see e.g., Fig. 6 and para. [0044]; i.e., the customization system corresponds to host 144, in which a user identifier 142 is passed to host 144 for determination of toolbar control, shortcuts, toolbar buttons, and menus, based on access level).

As to dependent claim 15, Kimball et al. teaches:

The system of claim 14, further comprising an application for managing the object and the user interface (see e.g., para. [0023], lines 6 – 10; i.e., the reference content corresponding to objects within "Favorites" 118g are managed by an application by means of a profile indicating the level of maturity of a user, whereby managing the reference content also corresponds to managing the user interface).

As to dependent claim 16, Kimball et al. teaches:

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The system of claim 15, wherein the displayed shortcut is further based on the application (see e.g., para. [0023], lines 6 – 10; i.e., an application is used to evaluate the level of maturity of a user, wherein the application provides a toolbar with shortcuts to frequently accessed content).

As to dependent claim 18, Kimball et al. teaches:

The method of claim 14, wherein the user has a user attribute (see e.g., para. [0013]; i.e., the user is associated with several attribute types), and wherein the displayed shortcut object (see e.g., Fig. 5B and para. [0043]; i.e., the shortcut corresponds to the “Favorites” menu 118g and “Shortcuts” menu 124g for displaying a list of choices to the user) is further based on a history of object operations selected by a set of users (see e.g., para. [0043]; i.e., the history of object operations corresponds to references to content frequently accessed by a user, such as by an adult or child user) having the user attribute (see e.g., para. [0013] and para. [0081]; i.e., a user attribute, such as maturity and access rights, determines the display of the user interface in terms of toolbar control, buttons, and shortcuts).

As to dependent claim 19, Kimball et al. teaches:

The method of claim 14, wherein the object has an object attribute (see Fig. 11; i.e., the object corresponds to contents 1120a – 1120d within “Favorite Places”, wherein the content includes attributes, such as “About AOL” 1025a, “Member Exclusives”, “Meeting People & Staying In Touch”, and “AOL’s Top Picks”), and wherein the displayed shortcut (see e.g., Fig. 5B and para. [0043]; i.e., the shortcut corresponds to the “Favorites” menu 118g and “Shortcuts” menu 124g for displaying a list of choices to the

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user) is further based on a history of object operations selected for a set of objects (see e.g., para. [0043]; i.e., the history of object operations corresponds to references to content frequently accessed by a user, such as by an adult or child user) having the object attribute (see e.g., Fig. 11; i.e., the reference content contains object attributes in order to be properly categorized within the folder hierarchy).

As to independent claim 20, claim 20 differs from claim 14 only in that claim 20 is an apparatus claim using a recordable medium (see e.g., para. [0079]; i.e., non-volatile memory, EPROM, flash memory devices, hard disks, removable disks, CD-ROM disks and magneto-optical disks) containing executable instructions (see e.g., para. [0079]; i.e., computer program instructions) that when executed causes a processor (see e.g., para. [0077]) to perform the steps of claim 14. Thus, claim 20 is analyzed as previously discussed with respect to claim 14 above.

As to dependent claim 21:

Claim 21 incorporates substantially similar subject matter as claimed in claim 15, and are respectfully rejected along the same rationale.

As to dependent claim 22:

Claim 22 incorporates substantially similar subject matter as claimed in claim 16, and are respectfully rejected along the same rationale.

As to dependent claim 24:

Claim 24 incorporates substantially similar subject matter as claimed in claim 18, and are respectfully rejected along the same rationale.

As to dependent claim 25:

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Claim 24 incorporates substantially similar subject matter as claimed in claim 19, and are respectfully rejected along the same rationale.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 7, 17, and 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kimball et al. (Publication No. 2004/0034646) in view of Pickover et al. (Patent No. 6,057,834).

As to dependent claim 7, Kimball et al. teaches a method of customizing a user interface (see e.g., para. [0053], lines 1 – 3) by identifying a user of the user interface (see e.g., para. [0035]; i.e., the graphical user interface (GUI) includes a control for identifying a user's grouping from a set of different groupings), displaying an object within the user interface (see e.g., Fig. 11 and para. [0066]; i.e., the object corresponds to contents 1120a – 1120d within "Favorites Places", which is displayed on the user interface for selection), and displaying a shortcut for the object (see e.g., Fig. 5B and para. [0043]; i.e., the shortcut corresponds to the "Favorites" menu 118g and "Shortcuts" menu 124g for displaying a list of choices to the user) based on the user (see e.g., para. [0043]; i.e., the shortcut and its content is directed towards a users

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interest, such as content frequently accessed by an adult or child) and a history of object operations performed by the user (see e.g., para. [0043]; i.e., the history of object operations corresponds to references to content frequently accessed by a user, such as by an adult or child user), but does not teach an object having a plurality of object states. Pickover et al. teaches an object having a plurality of object states (see e.g., col. 4, lines 27 – 49; i.e., the object corresponds to an iconic shortcut of a webpage, wherein the object state corresponds to the update interval of the webpage). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the customizing of a user interface, identifying a user, displaying an object, and displaying a shortcut of Kimball et al. with the object having a plurality of object states of Pickover et al. because the iconic shortcuts visually consolidate a group of webpage icons so that users can get an immediate feel for the organization of webpage links by topic and class (see e.g., col. 4, lines 50 – 58).

As to dependent claim 17, Kimball et al. teaches a system for customizing a user interface (see e.g., para. [0047]; i.e., the system for customizing a user interface can be stored on host 144 or client 140a) comprising, an identification system for identifying a user of the user interface (see e.g., para. [0057]; i.e., host 144 is connected the user, in which the user supplies a user identification and password to the server of the host 144 for identification), a display system for displaying an object in the user interface (see e.g., para. [0048]; i.e., display 162 is used to display the object in the user interface), a recording system for recording object operations that are selected by the user (see e.g., para. [0063] and para. [0074]; i.e., database 154, memory 172 or mass storage device

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170a is used to store frequently accessed or requested services by the user), and a customization system for displaying a shortcut for an object operation based on the recorded object operations and the object (see e.g., Fig. 6 and para. [0044]; i.e., the customization system corresponds to host 144, in which a user identifier 142 is passed to host 144 for determination of toolbar control, shortcuts, toolbar buttons, and menus, based on access level), but does not teach an object having a plurality of object states. Pickover et al. teaches an object having a plurality of object states (see e.g., col. 4, lines 27 – 49; i.e., the object corresponds to an iconic shortcut of a webpage, wherein the object state corresponds to the update interval of the webpage). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the customizing of a user interface, identifying a user, displaying an object, and displaying a shortcut of Kimball et al. with the object having a plurality of object states of Pickover et al. because the iconic shortcuts visually consolidate a group of webpage icons so that users can get an immediate feel for the organization of webpage links by topic and class (see e.g., col. 4, lines 50 – 58).

As to dependent claim 23:

Claim 23 incorporates substantially similar subject matter as claimed in claim 17, and are respectfully rejected along the same rationale.

Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kimball et al. (Publication No. 2004/0034646) in view of Eruhimov et al. (Publication No. 2004/0215591).

As to dependent claim 5, Kimball et al. teaches a method of customizing a user interface (see e.g., para. [0053], lines 1 – 3) by identifying a user of the user interface (see e.g., para. [0035]; i.e., the graphical user interface (GUI) includes a control for identifying a user's grouping from a set of different groupings), displaying an object within the user interface (see e.g., Fig. 11 and para. [0066]; i.e., the object corresponds to contents 1120a – 1120d within "Favorites Places", which is displayed on the user interface for selection), and displaying a shortcut for the object (see e.g., Fig. 5B and para. [0043]; i.e., the shortcut corresponds to the "Favorites" menu 118g and "Shortcuts" menu 124g for displaying a list of choices to the user) based on the user (see e.g., para. [0043]; i.e., the shortcut and its content is directed towards a users interest, such as content frequently accessed by an adult or child) and a history of object operations performed by the user (see e.g., para. [0043]; i.e., the history of object operations corresponds to references to content frequently accessed by a user, such as by an adult or child user). Kimball et al. further teaches recording the object operations that are performed by the user on the object to create the history of object operations (see e.g., para. [0063] and para. [0074]; i.e., database 154, memory 172 or mass storage device 170a is used to store frequently accessed or requested services by the user), but does not teach calculating a frequency that each object operation was selected by the user, and determining a particular object operation having the highest frequency. Eruhimov et al. teaches calculating a frequency that each object operation was selected by the user (see e.g., para. [0032]; i.e., software 400 automatically generates shortcuts based on the number of times a particular item is accessed), and

determining a particular object operation having the highest frequency (see e.g., para. [0032]; i.e., those skilled in the art will appreciate that in order to calculate the frequency of object operation, the determination of a particular object operation having the highest frequency will also be calculated). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the customizing of a user interface, identifying a user, displaying an object, and displaying a shortcut of Kimball et al. with the calculation of object operation frequency, and determining an object operation having the highest frequency of Eruhimov et al. because the calculation and generation of shortcuts can be automated in order to decrease the time to create the shortcut and interface (see e.g., para. [0025]).

Claims 10 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kimball et al. (Publication No. 2004/0034646) in view of Terry William Ogletree et al. (Microsoft Windows XP Unleashed).

As to dependent claim 10, Kimball et al. teaches a method of customizing a user interface (see e.g., para. [0053], lines 1 – 3) by identifying a user of the user interface (see e.g., para. [0035]; i.e., the graphical user interface (GUI) includes a control for identifying a user's grouping from a set of different groupings), displaying an object within the user interface (see e.g., Fig. 11 and para. [0066]; i.e., the object corresponds to contents 1120a – 1120d within "Favorites Places", which is displayed on the user interface for selection), and displaying a shortcut for the object (see e.g., Fig. 5B and para. [0043]; i.e., the shortcut corresponds to the "Favorites" menu 118g and

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"Shortcuts" menu 124g for displaying a list of choices to the user) based on the user (see e.g., para. [0043]; i.e., the shortcut and its content is directed towards a users interest, such as content frequently accessed by an adult or child) and a history of object operations performed by the user (see e.g., para. [0043]; i.e., the history of object operations corresponds to references to content frequently accessed by a user, such as by an adult or child user), but does not teach reserving a portion of a display area for displaying the shortcut, and displaying the shortcut in the reserved portion. Terry William Ogletree et al. teaches reserving a portion of a display area for displaying shortcuts (see e.g., Fig. 7.12 and pages 160 - 161; i.e., the most frequently used applications are displayed in the "Start" menu, wherein the "Start" menu corresponds to a reserved area for displaying shortcuts), and displaying the shortcut in the reserved portion (see e.g., Fig. 7.12 and pages 160 - 162; i.e., Fig. 7.12 shows six frequently used programs displayed in the "Start" menu, which corresponds to the reserved area for display). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the customizing of a user interface, identifying a user, displaying an object, and displaying a shortcut of Kimball et al. with reserving a portion of a display area for displaying shortcuts, and displaying the shortcuts in the reserved portion of Terry William Ogletree et al. because the most frequently used programs will be visible in the reserved area for easier and faster access (see e.g., page 161).

As to dependent claim 13:

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Claim 16 incorporates substantially similar subject matter as claimed in claim 10, and are respectfully rejected along the same rationale.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Prior art Patent No. 6,983,425 can be applicable and pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Prior art disclosed by Lin-Hendel et al. discloses a method and system that allows creation of shortcuts that are displayed in a predetermined area or a shortcut vault of a user interface.

Inquiries

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Henry Vuu whose telephone number is (571) 270-1048. The examiner can normally be reached on 8-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Weilun Lo can be reached on (571) 272-4847. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

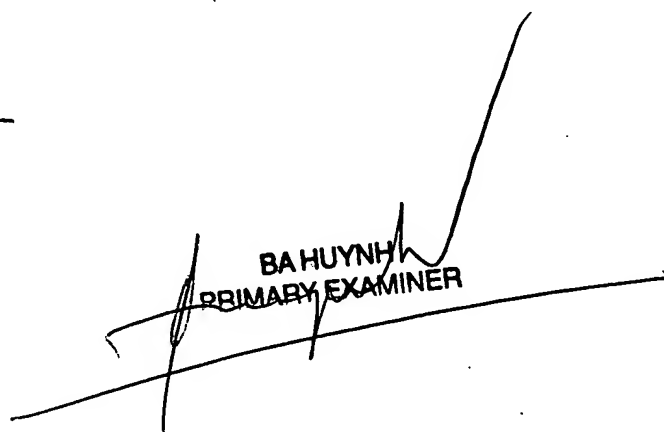
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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Henry Vuu



11/15/2006



BA HUYNH
PRIMARY EXAMINER